

Message Text

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DRAFTED BY IO/MLA:JLWASHBURN:SC

APPROVED BY IO:DMCCLELLAN

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R 130155Z FEB 76

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY KATHMANDU

AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI

AMEMBASSY SEOUL

USMISSION GENEVA

USMISSION USUN NY

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 035602

FOL REPEAT COLOMBO 545 SENT ACTION SECSTATE FEB 11

QTE

C O N F I D E N T I A L COLOMBO 545

E.O. 11652:GDS

TAGS: PFOR, CE

SUBJECT: MULTILATERAL AFFAIRS: NON-ALIGNED CONFERENCE

REF: STATE 23101

1. AMBASSADOR HAS APPOINTMENT WITH ARTHUR BASNAYAKE, DIRECTOR-GENERAL OF FIREIGN MINISTY (MDFA), AT 2:30 PM FEBRUARY 13. PURPOSE OF MEETING IS TO OBTAIN BRIEF RUNDOWN OF PRIME MINISTER BANDARANAIKE'S RECENT SOUTHEAST ASIA TOUR (BASNAYAKE ACCOMPANIED HER) AND, MORE IMPORTANT, TO HAVE GENERAL DISCUSSION OF SRI LANKA GOVERNMENT'S (GSL) PREPARATIONS FOR AUGUST NON-ALIGNED SUMMIT. BASNAYAKE, WHO WAS FORMERLY GSL'S AMBASSADOR IN JAPAN, IS KEY MAN IN FOREIGN MINISTRY FOR POLITICAL ASPECTS OF SUMMIT AND MAY BE DESIGNATED SECRETARY GENERAL OF CONFERENCE.

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2. ALTHOUGH WE BELIEVE IT WOULD BE PREMATURE TO RAISE BROAD RANGE OF NON-ALIGNED ISSUES AT THIS MEETING, WE FEEL IT WOULD BE USEFUL TO CONCENTRATE AT HIS POINT ON TWO OF FOUR POLITICAL ISSUES OF GREATEST IMPORTANCE DEPARTMENT IDENTIFIED IN REFTEL. THESE ARE KOREA AND GUAM/PUERTO RICO/VIRGIN ISLANDS/AMERICAN SAMOA. ON FORMER, WE HOPE TO REINFORCE GSL'S BASICALLY NEUTRAL APPROACH ON KOREAN ISSUE. ON LATTER, WE PLAN TO REITERATE UNACCEPTABILITY OF UN RESOLUTION ON DECOLONIZATION AND NON-ALIGNED REFERENCE TO PUERTO RICO. AMBASSADOR ALSO PLANS TO RAISE MIDDLE EAST AND ZIONISM/RACISM. WE FEEL, HOWEVER, THAT GSL HAS PROBABLY GONE AS FAR AS IT PRESENTLY FEELS IT CAN GO ON MIDDLE EAST BY PUBLICALLY WELCOMING EGYPT/ISRAEL INTERIM AGREEMENT IN SINAI AND BY SPECIFICALLY STATING IN UNGA THAT IT RECOGNIZES RIGHT OF ISRAEL TO EXIST (75 COLOMBO 3076; 75 USUN 4869). GSL HAS THUS IDENTIFIED ITS MIDDLE EAST POSITION WITH THAT OF MODERATE ARABS BUT IS UNLIKELY TO GET OUT IN FRONT OF THEM.

3. EMBASSY WOULD APPRECIATE RECEIVING ANY GUIDANCE DEPARTMENT MIGHT WISH TO PROVIDE WHICH COULD BE USED, AT AMBASSADOR'S DISCRETION, IN CONVERSATION WITH BASNAYAKEWH GUIDANCE SHOULD BE RECEIVED HERE BY OPENING OF BUSINESS FEBRUARY 13.
VAN HOLLEN

UNQTE
SISCO

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Margaret P. Grafeld
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To: KATHMANDU MULTIPLE
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